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the discovery of Neptune through calculations based upon the observed perturbations of Uranus. These calculations were carried on by Leverrier in Paris and Adams in Cambridge, each unknown to the other, and, in exact accordance with their predictions, the planet was seen for the first time, knowingly, by Galle in Berlin. The book devotes one chapter to comets and meteors, and closes with two well written chapters on the theory of tides and planetary evolution.

Although the book in certain parts is too technical for the average reader, yet the general plan and method of treatment are excellent. The author shows how by careful observation, rational speculation, and accurate calculation, the science of astronomy has come to be the substantial structure it is; he gives vivid portrayal of the struggles undergone and persecutions suffered by those who had to pay the penalty or price for the position of leadership in the world, and by graphic description he gives the attentive reader some wonderful glimpses into the infinity of the universe about him. It is a book of enduring value for the library of either home or school.

Wilbur S. Jackman.

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Greek-English Word List. By ROBERT BAIRD, Professor of Greek in Northwestern University. Ginn & Company: Boston. 1893. pp. 42.

Every classical teacher has regretted many times that students almost universally learn the story rather than the words. Oftentimes when the translator reads most glibly, if he is asked for the meaning of words apart from their connection, he is found woefully ignorant. The enormous waste of time which this shiftless method of study produces is deplored alike by teachers and students; but still the shiftlessness continues and a half million or more lexicons and vocabularies are daily becoming needlessly worn and soiled by too frequent thumbing. None of the devices hitherto suggested for preventing this waste are satisfactory. They are either totally ineffectual or else require too much time.

Now there are four things which it is desirable to know about a Greek word: first, its general meaning—the concept which it should call up; second, its special meanings, idiomatic and figurative; third, its relation to other Greek words—its root and various differentiations; and fourth, its relation to Latin and English. It is desirable to know these four things in regard to a word just as it is desirable in regard to a friend to be acquainted with his character, his special tastes and aptitudes, his family connections, and his relation to society.

The little book under review helps us toward this quadruple acquaintance. Its forty-two pages contain two lists of about one

thousand important Greek words. The first list is arranged in a series of groups in the formation of which much skill has been shown. Some of these groups are based on root-relationship, others on similarity of meaning. In each case the definition is short and clean-cut, synonyms are nicely discriminated, and important idioms are mentioned. In connection with this list, English derivatives are given in small capitals, and Latin derivatives in heavy faced type. A few cognate Anglo-Saxon words are added in italics. Each of these lists might easily have been increased, but as the author evidently intended to make them merely suggestive, we would not criticise his work. The second list contains the same Greek words as the first, but the arrangement is alphabetical and no definitions are given.

The author suggests that two minutes a day will be a sufficient amount of time for the teacher to devote to this work, and it seems possible that this may be true. Twice or three times this amount of time, however, might easily be spared for a few weeks, just as the class is entering upon the real work of translation. With a vocabulary of a thousand well selected words, the student would easily read a great many sentences at sight, and would get vastly more satisfaction out of his work than by the usual painful and thumb-hardening process.

There is just enough of the philological element to interest. The derivatives given are all of a character which attracts by their perfect plausibility, rather than those which strike the average boy as being far-fetched. This is certainly wise, for a too recondite study of derivations often discourages, and leads the tyro to a general scepticism on the subject.

The book is elegantly printed with new type in the best style of the Athenæum Press. The inevitable typographical error occurs; but will doubtless be corrected at once. On the whole the Word List is a valuable addition to the apparatus of the Greek recitation room.

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French Reader, on the Cumulative Method. With vocabulary, grammatical references, and synoptical tables. By ADOLPHE DREYSPRING, PH.D. American Book Company: New York. 1892. pp. 171.

This reader is written for children, and is the story of a boy's schooling under a wise and benevolent teacher. The teacher, Mr. Bonhomme, is portrayed with fidelity and consistency, except in the episode of the cat, page 46. This incident would be hardly consistent with the character.

The vocabulary employed is an exceedingly usable one. Few words are found that might not occur in any ordinary conversation. This is the chief merit of the book. The numerous illus-